



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit	: 3679	Customer No.:	035811
Examiner	: Aaron M. Dunwoody		
Serial No.	: 10/685,265		
Filed	: October 14, 2003		
Inventors	: Haruhisa Masuda	Docket No.:	1376-03
	: Yuji Munesawa		
	: Koichi Warino	Confirmation No.:	4015
	: Noriyuki Isobe		
	: Hideki Fujimura		
	: Yoshiro Iwata		
	: Koji Nakamura		
	: Kozo Tamura		
Title	: FUEL PIPE JOINT WITH EXCELLENT		
	: FUEL PERMEATION RESISTANCE		

Declaration of Mr. Noriyuki Isobe

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Sir:

I, Noriyuki Isobe, declare that I am a citizen of Japan. I graduated from Osaka University, the Faculty of Engineering, in March 1980, and obtained a Master's Degree from Osaka University for Applied Chemistry, in March 1982. I was employed by Ube Industries, Ltd. in April 1982, and since then, I have worked at Chemicals & Plastics Company, Engineering Plastic Business Unit, for research and development of plastics.

Page 25 of the above-identified Application contains four Examples and three Comparative Examples. The Comparative Examples employ nylon 12, nylon 12 and nylon 66, respectively. I conducted another experiment in the same way as the Comparative Examples in Table 1 except that I employed nylon 6. The results of that Comparative Example are set forth below:

Flexural Modulus (dry):	2500Pa
Flexural Modulus (wet 23%):	740Pa
Impact resistance (J/m):	69J/m

Amount of fuel permeation/amount of HC: 42.2/5.7mg/day

Electric resistance (Ω): $10^{15}\Omega$

This Comparative Example, taken with the other three Comparative Examples in our Application, shows that one of ordinary skill in the art would have the expectation that utilizing various polyamides would result in test pieces having relatively high fuel permeation characteristics. This is in contrast to our unexpected discovery that utilizing nylon 9T provides dramatically reduced fuel permeation characteristics that are 15 or more times more fuel permeation resistant than the other tested nylons.

The undersigned declares that all statements made herein of his own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and thus such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Date: February 28, 2006

Noriyuki Isobe
Noriyuki Isobe, Co-inventor